

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 FEA-01

ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIEP-01 COME-00 EB-08 FPC-01

INT-05 OMB-01 OES-06 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 /103 W

-----290708Z 091246 /11

R 281544Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0643

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: ENRG, OPEC, AU

SUBJECT: SOVIET OIL PRICES

REF: VIENNA 10210

1. EMBASSY HAS LEARNED (ADDRESSEES MAY ALREADY BE INFORMED)

THAT, FOLLOWING THE RECENT OPEC INCREASE, THE USSR HAS

HIKED PRICES ON PETROLUUM SHIPMENTS WITHIN COMECON. WE

HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT THE PRICE FOR SOVIET CRUDE DELIVERED

TO HUNGARY INCREASED 22.5 PERCENT ON JANUARY 1. AT 49 TRANSFER

RUBLES PER TON (ABOUT \$65), THIS PRICE IS STILL WELL

BELOW WORLD LEVELS, BUT THE INCREASES IN THE LAST TWO

YEARS HAVE BEEN STEEP (THE RANGE WAS REPORTEDLY 90 TO

130 PERCENT IN JANUARY 1975 AND "NEGLIGIBLE" 10 TO 11 PERCENT IN

JANUARY 1976). AS WE UNDERSTAND IT, SOVIET PETROLEUM

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PRICES ARE NOT UNIFORMLY ESTABLISHED AND POLITICAL

FACTORS PLAY A ROLE. WE UNDERSTAND THAT POLAND

TOOK A MUCH LARGER INCREASE IN 1975/76 THAN DID THE

GDR. LOCAL ESTIMATES FOR PRICE INCREASES WHICH

COMECON COUNTRIES WILL TAKE THIS YEAR RANGE FROM 25

TO 33 PERCENT.

2. ACCORDING TO OFFICIAL IMPORT STATISTICS, AUSTRIA
PAID ABOUT \$90 PER TON (CIF BORDER) FOR SOVIET
CRUDE DURING THE FIRST HALF OF 1976. THERE HAVE BEEN
REPORTS THAT THE SOVIETS PLAN TO RAISE PRICES TO
WESTERN CUSTOMERS BY 10 PERCENT, IN LINE WITH HIGHER OPEC
PRICES, BUT WE HAVE NO CONFIRMATION OF THIS TO DATE. BUCHANAN

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Message Attributes

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